

University of Nebraska

Organization Description

The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center serves as a link between the University and elected officials, state and local agency staff, the public at large, and others who represent the policy interests of Nebraskans. The Public Policy Center conducts policy-relevant research and identifies policy options for a broad array of issues, including human service issues.

Project Description

The University of Nebraska will develop a consensus for a statewide plan for an integrated behavioral health care system. The project intends to increase the number of CBOs and FBOs that provide behavioral health care and help to expand the range of behavioral health services provided. The project name is Nebraskans Expanding Behavioral Health Access through Networking Delivery Services (NebHands).

Geographic Scope of Project

The project will be conducted throughout the state of Nebraska. It will provide direct technical assistance to FBO/CBOs in at least 55 of Nebraska's 534 municipalities over the three-year project period.

Partnering Organizations

The Public Policy Center will collaborate with over forty partnering organizations from across the state. In addition, they will form a Stakeholder Advisory Committee of 75 individuals to represent the various sectors involved in the behavioral health care system, and there will be numerous committees that will allow participation of all who want to be involved in the project.

Sub-Awards

The project will grant approximately \$500,000 in sub-awards and technical assistance in the first year to at least 25 FBOs and CBOs.

Project Objectives

1. To enhance and expand the capacity of Nebraska's CBOs and FBOs to provide a range of supportive behavioral health services.
2. To develop and disseminate a plan for an integrated behavioral health care system at the state and community levels.
3. To evaluate the effectiveness of the "Nebraska Integrated System of Behavioral Health Care" project.

Project Strategies

- Provide direct technical assistance to at least 80 FBO/CBOs across the state over the three-year project period.
- Offer workshops one-and-one-half days in length in 4 locations around the state.
- Grant sub-awards for start-up and expansion of behavioral health services.
- Develop a consensus for a statewide plan for the integration of behavioral health care.
- Conduct an outcome evaluation to assess effectiveness of the technical assistance and sub-awards, impact of the plan, and usefulness of the guidelines.

Grant Award Amount

\$1,160,742

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